

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edward R. Lawson Jr. on 13 March 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims

In claim 1, line 3, after "one" insert ---elongated---,
line 14, after "a" insert ---lower, transverse--- and delete "facing the windshield",
line 15, change "and" to ---with--- and change "parallel to the windshield" to ---substantially perpendicular to the first plane---,
line 16, change "surface" to ---lower, transverse surface---,
line 17, after "part (12)" insert ---such that the transverse slot (28) is open at its ends on opposing side surfaces of the fastening part, the fastening part (12) having a length substantially perpendicular to the width and substantially in the first plane, the fastening part (12) defining a longitudinal slot in communication with the transverse slot (28)---,
line 20, after "part (12)" insert ---a portion of the fastening means (30) being receivable in the longitudinal slot---.

In claim 2, line 3, delete "(20)".

In claim 3, line 2, change "a free space" to ---the transverse slot---.

In claim 4, line 3, change "an" to ---the---.

In claim 7, line 3, change "an" to ---the---.

In claim 8, line 3, change "an" to ---the---.

Cancel claim 18.

In claim 20, line 3, change "a" to ---an elongated---,
line 13, after "part" insert ---and extending oppositely from one another---,
line 15, after "a" insert ---lower, transverse--- and delete "facing the",
line 16, change "windshield and a width parallel to the windshield" to ---with a width substantially perpendicular to the first plane---,
line 17, after "the" insert ---lower, transverse---,
line 18, after "(12)", insert ---such that the transverse slot (28) is open at its ends on opposing side surfaces of the fastening part (12)--- and before "surface" insert ---lower, transverse---.

In the Drawings

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: Add a reference numeral ---34--- with lead line to the drawings to indicate the spring element as set forth in the specification. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims set forth unique structure not fairly taught by the prior art. In particular, and in combination with other elements, a wiper arm has been set forth that includes both specific transverse and longitudinal slots that are in communication with one another in a lower surface of a fastening part. The transverse slot receives a connecting end of a fastening means and the longitudinal slot is adapted to receive a portion of the fastening means. Also, and in combination with other elements, a wiper arm has been set forth that includes a fastening means having an end connected to a spring, an intermediate part and an opposite end with a rod portion. The rod portion has rod ends extending outwardly from the intermediate part and extending oppositely from one another. This rod portion is received in an inclined transverse slot extending from a lower, transverse surface of the fastening part. The closest prior art (German 1423511) does not disclose both transverse and longitudinal slots, as claimed, for receiving the fastening means nor does it disclose a fastening means having a rod portion with rod ends that extend outwardly from the intermediate part and extend oppositely from one another wherein such portion is received in an inclined transverse slot, as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary K. Graham whose telephone number is 571-272-1274. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday (7:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Monica S. Carter can be reached on 571-272-4475. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gary K Graham/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3727